



CITY OF SUGAR LAND

Safe City • Planned Community • Strong Local Economy • Financially Sound City • Mobility for People

Spring 2001



What's Inside?

- Council Meeting Goes Live 2
- City Council Election 5-6
- Development Services Move 8

New Territory Joins Sugar Land's ETJ

The Sugar Land City Council recently accepted a revised extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ) map adding approximately 2,200 acres to the City's ETJ, which includes New Territory. The community had previously been included in Houston's ETJ.

What's an ETJ? It is defined as the unincorporated area that is contiguous to the corporate boundaries of the municipality and is designated by the state to promote and protect the general health, safety and welfare of persons residing in these adjacent areas.

The City of Sugar Land has been providing fire and emergency medical services to New Territory on a contract basis and could provide other services if it were within Sugar Land's jurisdiction. New Territory's approximate 15,000 population operate under the jurisdiction of Municipal Utility Districts #67, 68, 69, 111 and 112.



U.S. Highway 59 Update

You may feel you are moving slower on U.S. Highway 59, but it's clear that construction crews, working double shifts, are making real progress. Here are highlights:

- **December 2000:** Northbound frontage road over Oyster Creek opened.
- **January 2001:** Southbound frontage road over Oyster Creek opened.
- **2002:** Completion of U.S. Highway 59 mainlanes near U.S. Highway 90A.
- **2002:** Completion of U.S. Highway 59 mainlanes and frontage roads from Sugar Creek Boulevard to Texas Highway 6.
- **2003:** Completion of frontage roads between Kirkwood Drive and Sugar Creek Boulevard, including U.S. Highway 90 A mainlanes and the railroad crossing.

FYI

We Lead the State in Managed Growth

Census 2000 figures are in! Sugar Land ranks #1 in growth in the Houston metro area and #1 among the state's 45 largest cities. The City's population jumped from 24,529 in 1990 to 63,328 today – a 158 percent increase.

"We have managed our growth," says City Manager David E. Neeley, "and the census figures tell us we have been on target in our schedule of maintaining or upgrading services with our numerous annexations over the past 10 years."

By race, the City's breakdown is 60.84 percent, White; 23.75 percent, Asian; 7.98 percent, Hispanic or Latino; and 5.12 percent, Black or African American.

City Council Goes Live

Sugar Land is now using streaming video to broadcast live City Council meetings over the Internet. Streaming video is a process by which a video is downloaded from the Internet to a computer and begins playing almost immediately. In addition to a computer, individuals will need Real Player or Media Player to view City Council meetings over the Internet. Both software applications are available for download on Sugar Land's home page — www.ci.sugar-land.tx.us. Tune in on the first, third and fourth Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Election information available on pages 5 and 6

CITY COUNCIL

Dean A. Hrbacek
Mayor

James A. Thompson
Councilmember-At-Large, Position One

Karyn K. Dean
Councilmember-At-Large, Position Two

Donald L. Smithers
Councilmember, District One

Cyril Hosley
Mayor Pro-Tem, Councilmember, District Two

J. Brian Gaston
Councilmember, District Three

Michael J. Siwierka
Councilmember, District Four

CITY STAFF

David Neeley
City Manager

Allen Bogard
Deputy City Manager

Karen Glynn
Director of Community Development

Claire Manthel
Director of Finance/Administration

Earnest Taylor
Police Chief

John Wu
Fire Chief

Joe Morris
City Attorney

Glenda Gundermann
City Secretary

Firefighters Provide Safe Options at Clements High School



Following a teen fatality and other major accidents in 1997 involving teens, Sugar Land Fire Department Lt. Doug Boeker wanted to empower young people to lead safer lives.

Not knowing how to begin, he visited one of his former teachers, Clements High School Principal Mike McKee.

Immediately, he was directed to Rangers Against Destructive Decisions (RADD), a group originated by parents to provide students with fun, safe alternatives to drinking and other potential deadly behavior. The resulting alliance has enabled firefighters to mentor Clements students and let them know the Fire Department has "a vested interest in people's health and happiness," says Boeker.

Last year, the Fire Department hosted a Sign the Car Pledge in which students signed a wrecked car – brought to campus at firefighters' expense – as a pledge to think before they acted during spring break. A Seventh Inning Stretch proved to be a real hit as the Fire Department cooked hot dogs and hamburgers and entertained students in an evening of obstacle courses and a dunking booth.

This year, events planned for Clements include "Shattered Dreams," a dramatization of an actual car accident; a Decisions Matter Campaign; and a Summer Send Off. Assisting Boeker in the planning are Brett Ellis and Jerrold Vents.

Because the entire Fire Department has embraced this program, Boeker hopes it will be expanded to Kempner and Dulles high schools soon. As it does, more students will have the chance to look at their options and hopefully make safe, educated choices.



New Sugar Land Fire Stations

- Fire Station #5, to be located at the corner of Elkins Road and Commonwealth Boulevard, is scheduled to open August 2001. The new fire station will serve the southwest portions of Sugar Land, including Commonwealth, Avalon and Sweetwater subdivisions. The station will include a fire truck manned by four firefighters per shift.
- On Jan. 20, residents of Greatwood, Tara and Riverpark overwhelmingly approved the construction of Fire Station #6, a facility that will significantly improve response time to the area, which is already being serviced as part of the City's extraterritorial jurisdiction. The local municipal utility districts will pay for the construction of the station. The Sugar Land Fire Department will provide staffing, with staffing paid by area residents. In addition, Fort Bend Emergency Medical Services intends to staff a full-service ambulance at the station. Completion of Fire Station #6 is tentatively planned during the summer of 2002.

Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery

As spring and daylight savings time approaches, residents should change the batteries in their smoke detectors. A working smoke detector cuts the risk of dying in a home fire by nearly half.

Here's a simple way to remember an important life-saving habit: "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery." For more information on smoke detectors, call the Sugar Land Fire Department's Public Education Division at (281) 491-0852.

Child Safety Seats: How Safe Are They?

More than 95 percent of safety seats that Sugar Land Child Passenger Safety Technicians have checked during 2000 were improperly installed by the parent. To combat the problem, the Sugar Land Police Department has initiated a program of education and strict enforcement.

Sugar Land child safety seat technicians are available to assist you at clinics scheduled throughout the year or at the police station, by appointment only. If you would like information or assistance with your child safety seat, contact the Sugar Land Traffic Unit at (281) 275-2523 or (281) 275-2584.

Congratulations Ryan! Oyster Creek Elementary Student is Tops



Eight-year-old Ryan Conrad, of Oyster Creek Elementary School, is the winner of the Sugar Land Police Officer 2000 Trading Card Program.

The Trading Card Program and Contest was held Oct. 1, 2000, through Feb. 23, 2001. A drawing was held March 17, at 1 p.m., at the First Colony Mall near JC Penney with the names of everyone who collected the entire set of 110 cards. Ryan was the lucky collector who won a complete computer system, but all participants received prizes such as computer software, card collecting albums and many more educational prizes for their effort.

The Sugar Land Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association and the Sugar Land Police Department sponsored the program and contest. Card collectors were invited to come to the police facility every Friday afternoon beginning Oct. 6 for a tour of the building. During the tour, collectors had an opportunity to meet officers and obtain cards they have not been able to collect so far.

Ryan found out about the trading card contest when he took a tour of the police facility with his Boy Scout Troop.

Volunteer Appreciation



Congratulations to volunteers: Mariela Bateman, Candy Benedict, Stan Begam, Betty Burcalow, Jeanne Canales, Carl Deisze, Ron Dearman, David Edwards, Richard Grant, Tom Gargiulo, Debby Haney, Maureen Heale, John Healy, Gus Henry, Carol Henry, Bill Hull, Lunda Hull, Tom Insley, Kathleen Insley, Sarah James, Vernon Kerner, Julia Kerner, Lance Kitchen, Loretta Knesek, Diane Kworwa, Ken Langer, Rusty Lederman, Michael Long, Patti Long, Wallace Mebane, Felix Porter, Beverly Porter, Jan Psencik, Greg Reagan, Danny Rodriguez, Cheryl Schubert, Ellen Sedita, Beverly Stegall, Deb Smith, Carey Snyder, Adoria Voss and Vivian Whiteman.

The Sugar Land Police Department presented volunteer appreciation certificates to members of the Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association for donating a total of 1,665 volunteer hours in 2000 in support of the department.

Man's Best Friend



The City of Sugar Land and local newspapers have initiated a new program called "Pet of the Week" to find homes for deserving pets. Each week, a homeless animal is featured, and based on preliminary results the program is off to a productive start. So far, two of the three pets appearing in *The Fort Bend Star* have new homes.

Residents can receive immediate information regarding crime, severe weather reports, news releases from the Police Department, upcoming police events, etc.

To register, individuals should select "e-mail notification" on the Police Department's section of the City's web page — www.ci.sugar-land.tx.us.

Crossword Puzzle

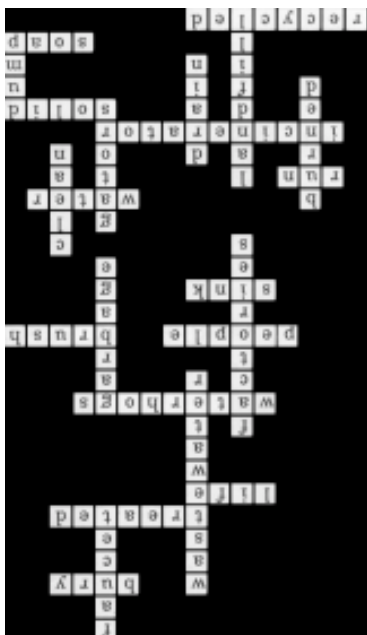


Across words:

- People 2 their solid waste in landfills.
- Wastewater must be 4 before it is poured into a river.
- Without water, there would be no 5
- Animals, plants and 7 are mostly made of water.
- Turn the faucet off when you 8 your teeth.
- Stopper the 9 when you need to soak dirty dishes.
- People use 11 to clean, cool buildings and grow food.
- The easiest way to save water is never to let the faucet 13 .
- Sometimes solid waste is burned in a 16 .
- Banana peels, used paint cans and milk cartons are all 17 waste.
- Turn the faucet off while you 19 your hands.
- Newspapers and glass bottles can be 20 .

Down words

- Turn off the 1 while you scrub the car with a bucket of soap.
- Dirty, used water from bathrooms, kitchens and factories is called 3 .
- 6 have to bury their solid waste in special landfills.
- Everyone must work to keep our water 10 .
- Sometimes solid waste is 12 in incinerators.
- Instead of dumping solid waste just anywhere, people bury it in a 14 .
- When water runs down the 15 , it goes to a wastewater treatment plant.
- It is bad for water to 18 solid waste



Answers

Don't Be a Water Hog

Drive away those water hogs!

- Showers use less water than bathtubs.
- Turn off the faucet when you're brushing your teeth or soaping your hands.

Run off those hogs!

- Use a bucket of soapy water to wash the car, and use the hose only for washing.
- Water the lawn in the early morning and not in the middle of the day when the sun evaporates the water.

Get rid of those hogs!

- Stopper the sink to soak or rinse dirty dishes (or use a pan of water).
- Put a jug of water in the refrigerator instead of running the faucet until the water turns cold.
- Run full loads in the dishwasher and washing machine.

Double-headed hogs!

- Water heaters take energy to get water hot. Use as little hot water as you can, and stop the double hogging of water and energy.

Development Services Moves to 123 Brooks Street



The City's Development Services Department has relocated to 123 Brooks Street.

These services include building inspection, health inspection and code enforcement. This includes building plans and permits for electrical, mechanical, plumbing, fire and health as well as electrical licenses. In addition, building permits — including construction, moving, demolition, signs, roofing and electrical name change (permit is required for the transfer of a commercial electrical service) — will be handled at the new facility.

As a result of the relocation, most Development Services phone numbers will change:

- Main number: (281) 275-2370;
- Fax: (281) 275-2371; and
- Building Inspection Line: (281) 275-2372.

The phone number for fire inspections, (281) 491-0852, will not change. For security reasons, cash payments will not be accepted at the new location. Payments must be made by check, money order, Mastercard or Visa.

Sugar Land Airport

QUICKLY BECOMING CORPORATE HUB

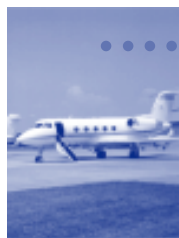
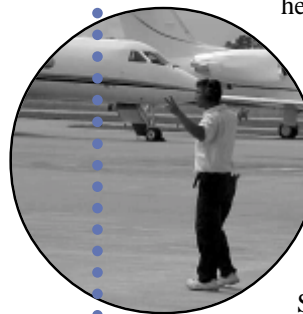


Already one of the top facilities in the greater-Houston area, Sugar Land Airport is poised to expand its influence in the corporate market with the addition of an 85-foot air-traffic-control tower.

As part of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Control Tower Program, the City will receive federal funding for operating costs, saving Sugar Land \$250,000 per year. The Texas Department of Transportation has also helped with funding.

The new tower is of special interest to corporate aviation managers, who generally prefer FAA-controlled facilities.

Sugar Land Airport currently holds the distinction of being the only reliever airport in the southwest sector. This means that general aviation air traffic may be diverted from the Houston area's two commercial airports to reduce congestion.



New Automated Weather System Available to Residents

Pilots and residents now have easy access to real-time weather information for Sugar Land. The Automated Surface Observation System (ASOS) was commissioned December 28, with information broadcast on 118.125 MHz or by telephone at (281) 242-7605. The airport, with the assistance of U.S. Congressman Tom DeLay's office, was included in legislation for the installation of the system. The \$100,000 program was completely funded and is maintained by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Let's Go Fishing!



Texas Parks and Wildlife stocked Eldridge Lake with 2,000 rainbow trout in February, adding to the bass, catfish and perch fingerlings that were stocked in the past year. Sugar Land residents are welcome to fish the lake; however, all state fishing regulations apply – check www.tpwd.state.tx.us for up-to-date information. The lake is part of Eldridge Park, a 43-acre city park located at Eldridge Road and West Airport that includes a playground, 10 soccer fields, a picnic pavilion, a meeting room and restroom facilities. Sugar Land residents may reserve the pavilion and meeting room by calling the Parks and Recreation Department at (281) 275-2888.

Street Signs Get New Look



Sugar Land streets have a new look thanks to the new and improved street signage installed by the Traffic Operations Division. The larger, more reflective street signs make it easier to navigate safely to your destination

Eggstravaganza in the Park

Youngsters 12 years old and under will fill Lost Creek Park on April 13 for the annual Eggstravaganza in the Park.

This year's festivities include:

- Haystack egg hunts for children up to 3 years old.
- Easter egg gathering by age groups for children up to 12 years old.
- The Easter Bunny will visit with youngsters.
- Youngsters also can enjoy moon walks, a petting zoo and hayrides.

Refreshments will be sold at Lost Creek Park, 3703 Lost Creek Blvd.

Eggstravaganza in the Park is scheduled for noon to 3 p.m. For more information on this special event, call the Parks and Recreation Department at (281) 275-2885.



Open Gym Scores a Hit

Based on its success, Sugar Land's Open Gym program will be expanded this summer to include two middle schools and one high school.

Open Gym is a semi-structured program that allows youth to participate in basketball, volleyball, ping pong, board games and many other activities. During the summer, basketball, volleyball and football camps are held Monday-Thursday, June 4-July 31 at the following locations:

- First Colony Middle School from 1-5 p.m.;
- Sugar Land Middle School from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; and
- Clements High School from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

In addition to the summer program, Open Gym is offered after school at:

- First Colony Middle School Monday-Thursday, from 4-6 p.m., through May; and
- M.R. Wood High School Monday-Thursday, from 5-9 p.m., year-round.

Students and Sugar Land residents that attend any of the above schools (or would attend those schools) may participate.



On the Cover

The Sugar Land Girl's Softball Association batted 1000 on opening day with a parade, many fun activities and a surprise appearance by Olympic softball gold medallist Christa Williams.

As part of the festivities, t-shirts promoting the City's new recycling program were distributed. To reduce littering and promote recycling in little league ball parks, the City has teamed up with Keep Sugar Land Beautiful and three local little leagues to sponsor a pilot project called LitterLess Little League – "Play Hard, Play Clean." It's the first of its kind in Texas and could be used as a statewide model. Recycling bins will be placed at each park to encourage recycling plastics sold at concessions stands and aluminum brought in by spectators.

For more information about LitterLess Little League, call the Solid Waste Division at (281) 275-2450 or Keep Sugar Land Beautiful at (281) 340-2064.

A DATE TO REMEMBER

APRIL

- 1 Daylight Savings Time
- 3 City Council Meeting
- 13 Good Friday
City Offices Closed
Easter Egg Hunt at Lost Creek Park
- 17 City Council Meeting
- 18 Early Voting Begins

MAY

- 1 Early Voting Ends
City Council Meeting
- 5 City Election
- 15 City Council Meeting
- 19 Armed Forces Day
- 22 City Council Meeting
- 26 Municipal Pool Opens
- 28 Memorial Day
City Offices Closed

JUNE

- 5 City Council Meeting
- 14 Flag Day
- 19 City Council Meeting
- 26 City Council Meeting

JULY

- 3 City Council Meeting
- 4 Independence Day
City Offices Closed
Red, White and Bluefest
- 17 City Council Meeting
- 24 City Council Meeting

AUGUST

- 7 City Council Meeting
National Night Out
- 13 55 Alive Mature Driving Course
- 21 City Council Meeting
- 28 City Council Meeting

Regular solid waste collection and recycling will occur on:

- **Good Friday (Friday, April 13); and**
- **Memorial Day (Monday, May 28).**



City of Sugar Land
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